

CHIC-A GO-GO COMICS!



ADVERTISEMENT!



Hi kids! Ratso and Miss Mia here! Since 1996 we have been helping Chicagoans of all ages, sizes, and attitudes boogie their feet off on our cable access dance show Chic-A-Go-Go! Along with our fellow Puppetronic-Americans Lil' Ratso, Rattina, Bratso, and our great human friends like Miss Joy, Miss Lisa, Romando, Miss Suzy, Derrick, and all the Chic-A-Go-Go dancers, we've been meeting stars, shaking it to the best bands, and learning about our city's cultural history! And with this comic we can even help you learn to read! Please dig it!



Chic-A-Go-Go Comics (Spring 2007) All comics copyright their respective creators. Contact Ratso, learn how to come dance on the show or get your band on the show or have Miss Mia and Ratso come to your birthday party by contacting us at www.myspace.com/chicagogoshow

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(www.derekerdman.com) Page 8 - Chic-A-Go-Go Comix. Page 17 - Ads

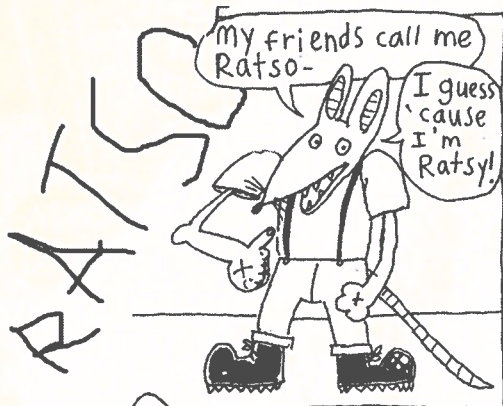
by Eric Nix. Page 18 - Tuesday Night fever by Patrick Welch and Carrie Golus

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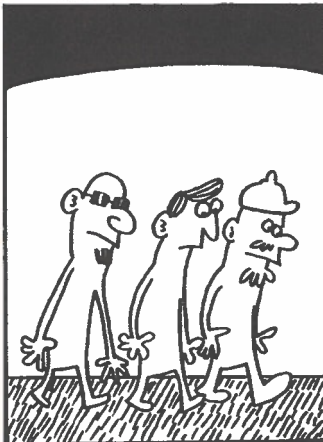
(www.thrilljockey.com/artists/?id=10005) Back Cover - art by Jay Ryan

(www.thebirdmachine.com)



FOR THE KIDS

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CHIC-A-GO-GO: A NEW HOPE by Jerome 2007



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THE BOTTLE LET ME DOWN

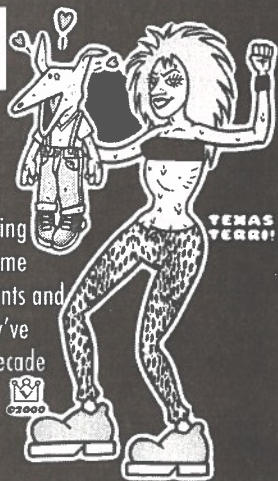


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Chic-A-go-go comix

Hi, I'm Ratso! I like hanging with my celeb pals almost as much as they like talking to a puppet! Here's some giggles, special moments and nuggets of advice they've shared over the last decade on my cable access dance show Chic-A-Go-Go!



"In Hanoi and I'm 'gray' too! Hey Jean how do you learn to produce?"

"This I started when I was younger and had a keyboard and a beat machine called the GP-1200 - all the kids should know that!"

"Go math come in - you have to be able to count to 1200!"

"Counting to 4 is pretty good too - language - doesn't matter - 4 pairs, 16 beats - yeah, math is very important in rap!"



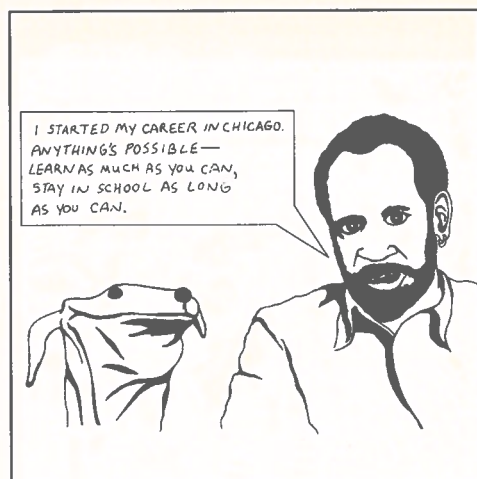
Ratso meets Jean Grae (by Gene Booth)



Lil' Ratso and Miss Mia meets TV on the Radio (by Brian Ralph)



Lil' Ratso meets Andrew W. K. (by MCA)



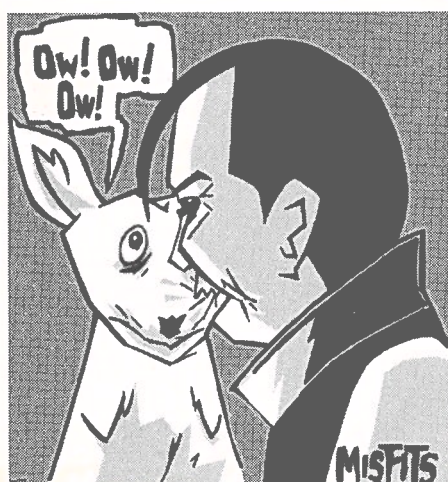
Lil' Ratso meets Tim Reid
(by Jason Warriner with Hannah Tashjian)



Ratso meets Sleater-Kinney (by Borissica)



Miss Mia & Lil' Ratso meet Cheap Trick (by Tony Fate)



Lil' Ratso meets Jerry Only (by K Thor Jensen)



Ratso meets Leslie & the Lys (by Meghan)



Ratso meets Pedro Bell (by Sean the Sean)



Katso meets Impaler (by Brad Oexeman)

Lil' Ratso meets Will Oldham (by Archer Prewitt)



Find a mentor and follow them.



Miss Mia meets Fericito (by Chris Butler)

CHIC-A-GO-GO!

PRESENTS:

BOBBY CONN



Ratso & Miss Joy meet Bobby Conn (by Robert Dayton)



Ratso meets Los Crudos (by Jason Mitchell)



Ratso meets the Donnas (by Jessica Abel)



Ratso meets Red Krayola (by Plastic Crimewave)



Ratso meets the Shirelles (by John Greenfield)

The **DEMOLITION DOLLRODS** remind you to...



Ratso meets the Demolition Doll Rods (by Matt Madden)



Lil' Ratso meets Zolar X (by Mike Twohig)



Ratso meets Guitar Wolf

(by Alex Wald)



Ratso meets The Cramps (by King Merrinuk) Lil' Ratso meets Patti Smith (by Darryl Wells)



Ratso meets Shonen Knife (by Ivan Brunetti)



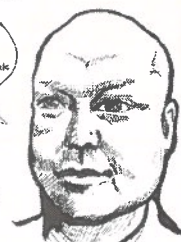
Make lots of arts
and crafts!



FRANK BLACK

You know alot of Languages too

No.
I know how to speak English.
I know how to speak Martian.



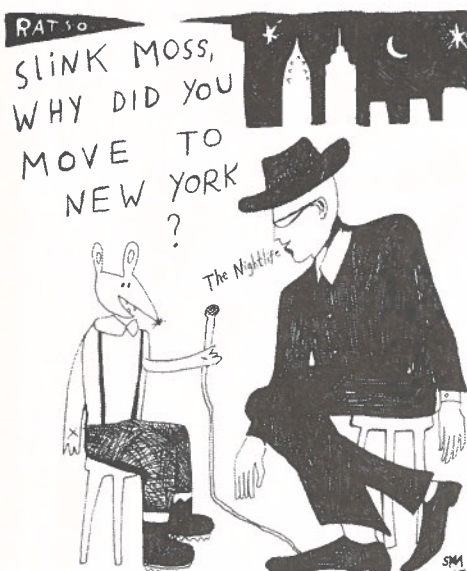
Lil' Ratso meets Frank Black
(by Jenny Zervakis)

Lil Ratso meets R.J. Assault
(by Jake Austen)



I like your music but it makes me a little embarrassed...
Don't get embarrassed... just shake a little something!

Rattina meets Mystic (by Roby Newton)



Ratso meets Slink Moss (by Slink Moss)



Ratso meets Marky Ramone (by Justin Melkman)



Ratso meets Dead Moon (by Wm. McCurtin)

Ratso meets Vanilla Ice (by Gentleman John Battles) Lemmy refuses to meet Ratso (by Stu Helm)



BIG Romondo
IN
"BURNED YA,
LEARNED YA!"
WELCOME
BACK TO
CHIC-A-GO-GO!
CLAP! CLAP! YEA!

HEY, THAT WAS THE ANARCHIES! WOW!
THAT WAS GREAT!

SUGAR IN YOUR GAS TANK

RAMONA SORRY, GUYS. SHE'S TAKEN.

ANARCHIE.

SKINHEAD.

YOU GUYS SOUND JUST LIKE THE SEX PISTOLS!

BUT, BIG ROMONDO... THE SEX PISTOLS DON'T PLAY TOGETHER ANY MORE!

NEITHER DO YOU GUYS!

DESTROY

"POPS" DEREK SAYS: OHHH, THE FOOD IN MY JOINT IS BAD. LAB RATS TEST IT ON ME!!

CHIC-A-GO-GO-CHOKLIT SHOPPE

Miss Mia
IN
"BAJA HA HA"

ON A LIGHT BIKE RIDE ACROSS MEXICO...

BOY, I'VE ONLY BEEN RIDING FOR 200 MILES AND I'M THIRSTY ALREADY! I'LL STOP HERE FOR A DRINK...

JOSE MARTINEZ TAQUERIA

GOOD THING I SPEAK FLUENT SPANISH...

UNO SODA, POR FAVOR... MAKE IT MUCHO CHILLY!!

MIL MASCARAS

AHH, SI, SI, MUJER BONITA!

ESTA NOCHE LOS LOCOS DEL RITMO

Pasé Willie Jackson

¡RATA POQUITO! YOU PUT THAT IN HER SODA?!!

SI! SHE SAID "MUCHO CHILI!!"

ROJO DIABLO RED HOT CHILI POWDER

¡ROARR!

BATTLES

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CHIC-A-GO-GO
ON
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CABLE CHANNEL
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CAN-TV!
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AND
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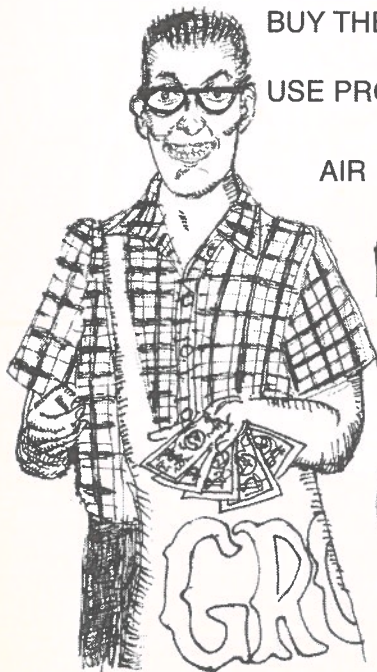
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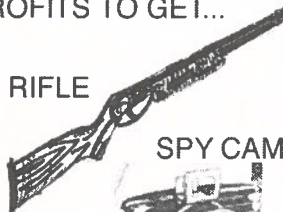
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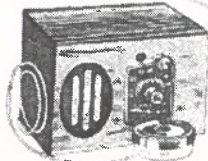
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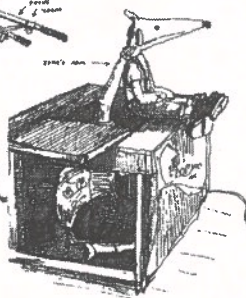
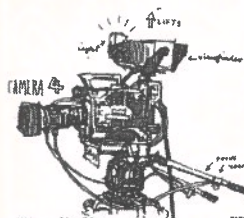
24 HOURS A DAY!

TUESDAY NIGHT FEVER

B/CARRIE GOLUS
Y/PATRICK WELCH
CHICAGO SUPERHERO PAPER

IMAGINE, IF YOU WILL, A PARALLEL CHICAGO WHERE EVERYONE GETS ALONG. A PLACE WHERE RACE, INCOME, RELIGION AND POLITICS ARE IRRELEVANT. WHERE MIDDLE-AGERS, TWENTYSOMETHING HIPSTERS AND KIDS IN SINGLE DIGITS ALL HANG OUT TOGETHER. WHERE DANCING LIKE AN IDIOT IS CONSIDERED TO BE A COOL THING TO DO.

THIS IS THE WORLD OF "CHIC-A-GO-GO," A CABLE ACCESS TV SHOW THAT'S BEEN RUNNING SINCE 1996. "CHIC-A-GO-GO," HOSTED BY MISS MIA AND THE PUPPET RATSO, IS AN UNLIKELY COMBINATION OF CHILDREN'S TV SHOW, A DANCE SHOW AND FREEFORM COLLEGE RADIO.



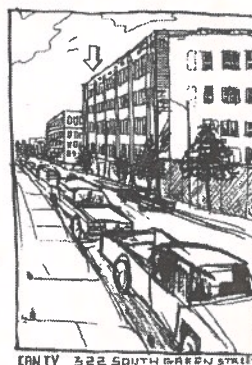
"CHIC-A-GO-GO" ALSO FEATURES "LIVE" PERFORMANCES (USUALLY LIP-SYNCHED) AND INTERVIEWS WITH BANDS FROM ALL GENRES. AT THE TAPING WE VISITED, LEGENDARY BLUES MUSICIAN SWAMP DOGG APPEARED ON THE FIRST SHOW, LOCAL ROCKERS EVIL BEAVER ON THE SECOND.

THE PRODUCERS OF "CHIC-A-GO-GO" ARE A HUSBAND-AND-WIFE TEAM, JAKE AUSTEN AND JACKIE STEWART. AUSTEN, WHO OPERATES RATSO AND PULLS TOGETHER THE SHOW'S WIDE-RANGING SOUNDTRACK, IS A CARTOONIST, WRITER, AND PUBLISHER OF THE MUSIC ZINE ROCTOBER. STEWART, THE SHOW'S DIRECTOR, RECENTLY BECAME AN ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, WHERE SHE SPECIALIZES IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN FILM AND LITERATURE.

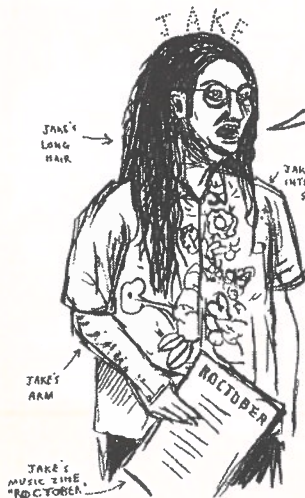


CHIC-A-GO-GO'S "CHICAGO" STAGE SET

THE MAIN INSPIRATION FOR "CHIC-A-GO-GO" WAS ANOTHER CHICAGO TV PROGRAM, "KIDDIE-A-GO-GO," A CHILDREN'S DANCE SHOW THAT RAN IN THE 1960S. LIKE "CHIC-A-GO-GO," "KIDDIE-A-GO-GO" WAS MADE BY A MARRIED COUPLE, JACK AND ELAINE MULQUEEN. ELAINE STARRERD AS THE SHOW'S HOST, WHILE JACK WAS IN CHARGE OF THE PUPPETS.



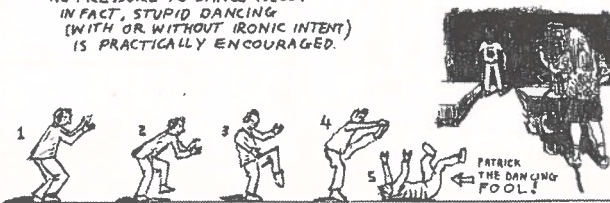
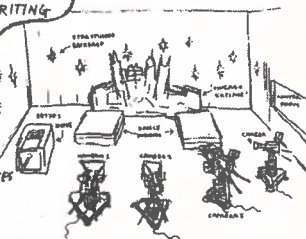
"KIDDIE-A-GO-GO" RAN FIVE DAYS A WEEK, BUT OF THE THOUSANDS OF EPISODES, JUST THREE SURVIVE. AUSTEN AND STEWART GOT TO WATCH TWO OF THEM WHEN AUSTEN WAS HELPING TO RESEARCH A ROCTOBER ARTICLE ON THE SHOW. LATER, THEY FOUND OUT THAT ONE OF STEWART'S COUSINS, LEAH MERRIFIELD, HAD DANCED ON "KIDDIE-A-GO-GO."



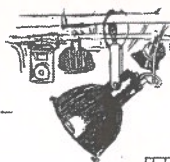
"WHAT ATTRACTED US MOST WAS THAT IT WAS DONE LIVE. THERE WOULD BE THESE AWKWARD PAUSES, THE WRITING FOR THE JOKES WAS AIL CORNY, THERE WOULD BE THESE LONG, NO-LAUGHING COMEDY SKITS, AND IT JUST KEPT GOING. THAT WAS THE AESTHETIC THAT MOST EXCITED US."

"CHIC-A-GO-GO" DOESN'T RUN LIVE, BUT THE CAMERA IS STOPPED AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE, AND ANY MINOR MISTAKES ARE INTENTIONALLY LEFT IN.

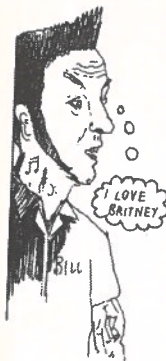
UNLIKE WITH MANY DANCE SHOWS—EVEN CABLE ACCESS DANCE SHOWS—JUST ABOUT ANYONE CAN BE ON "CHIC-A-GO-GO." THERE ARE NO AUDITIONS. THERE'S NO PRESSURE TO DANCE WELL. IN FACT, STUPID DANCING (WITH OR WITHOUT IRONIC INTENT) IS PRACTICALLY ENCOURAGED.



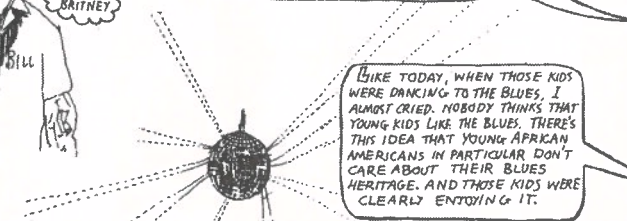
WHAT MAKES THE SHOW SO ENTERTAINING — FOR THE AUDIENCE, AND FOR ITS PRODUCERS — IS WATCHING PEOPLE DANCE TO MUSIC YOU WOULD GUESS THEY WOULD HATE.



TACOLELLO AND THE RECORDS



I LOVE BRITNEY



YOU'LL HAVE A HARD-CORE ROCKABILLY GUY, AND HE'LL HAVE TO DANCE TO BRITNEY SPEARS. YOU'LL HAVE AN EIGHT-YEAR-OLD, AND THEY'LL HAVE TO DANCE TO A JUMP RECORD FROM THE FORTIES OR FIFTIES.



LIKE TODAY, WHEN THOSE KIDS WERE DANCING TO THE BLUES, I ALMOST CRIED. NOBODY THINKS THAT YOUNG KIDS LIKE THE BLUES. THERE'S THIS IDEA THAT YOUNG AFRICAN AMERICANS IN PARTICULAR DON'T CARE ABOUT THEIR BLUES HERITAGE. AND THOSE KIDS WERE CLEARLY ENJOYING IT.



JAKE



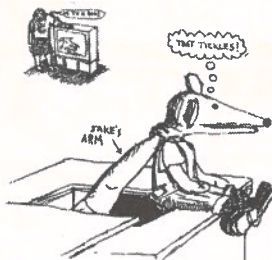
jackie

IT'S ABOUT THE WAY IT FEELS TO DANCE WHEN YOU'RE IN YOUR LIVING ROOM, OR AT A WEDDING. DANCING IS FUN; IT'S NOT ABOUT BEING JUDGED BY OTHER PEOPLE.



JACKIE



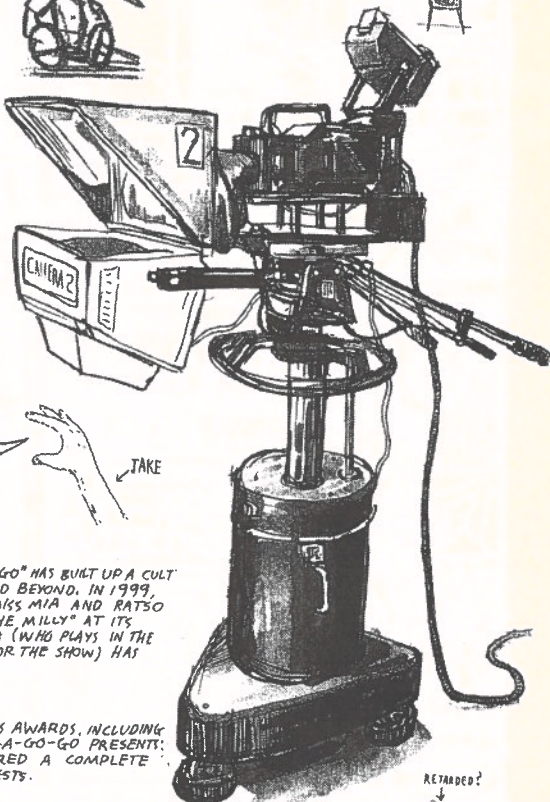


AS WELL AS LIVE ACTS, THE SHOW ALSO FEATURES RATSO INTERVIEWING BANDS ON LOCATION. THIS CAN BE TRICKY, BECAUSE AUSTEN USUALLY GOES TO INTERVIEWS ALONE, AND HE HAS TO HOLD THE CAMERA, THAT MEANS THE PERSON BEING INTERVIEWED HAS TO OPERATE RATSO.

RATSO



MISS MIA IS NOTHING WITHOUT ME!



MISS MIA

LUX (INTERIOR OF THE CRAMPS) WAS REALLY, REALLY BAD AT IT. THIS ONE WOMAN IN THE SHIRELLES, A ROCK 'N' ROLL HALL OF FAME, SHE WAS AWESOME.

IN FOUR YEARS, "CHIC-A-GO-GO" HAS BUILT UP A CULT FOLLOWING IN CHICAGO AND BEYOND. IN 1999, THE CITY COMMISSIONED MISS MIA AND RATSO TO LEAD CHICAGOANS IN "THE MILLY" AT ITS NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY. MISS MIA (WHO PLAYS IN THE BAND KIM AND HELPS BOOK BANDS FOR THE SHOW) HAS ALSO BEEN A GUEST VJ ON MTV.

THIS SUMMER, THE SHOW WON TWO NATIONAL CABLE ACCESS AWARDS, INCLUDING ONE IN THE "CULTURAL/ETHNIC" CATEGORY FOR "CHIC-A-GO-GO PRESENTS: PASSOVER IN PUPPETOWN." THIS SPECIAL EPISODE FEATURED A COMPLETE SEDER, WITH BOTH PEOPLE AND PUPPETS AS GUESTS.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE FUN ONLY LASTS FOR HALF AN HOUR. THEN "CHIC-A-GO-GO" IS OVER, AND IT'S BACK TO REGULAR CHICAGO, WITH ITS SEGREGATED NEIGHBORHOODS AND JUDGMENTAL INHABITANTS.

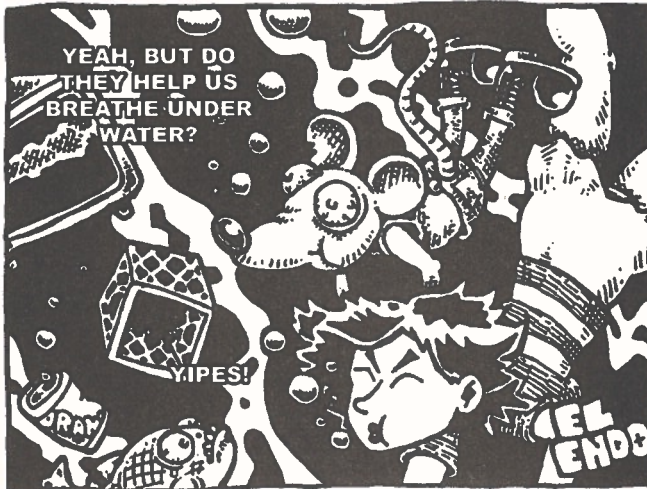
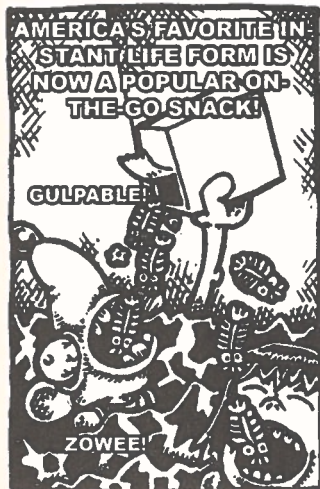
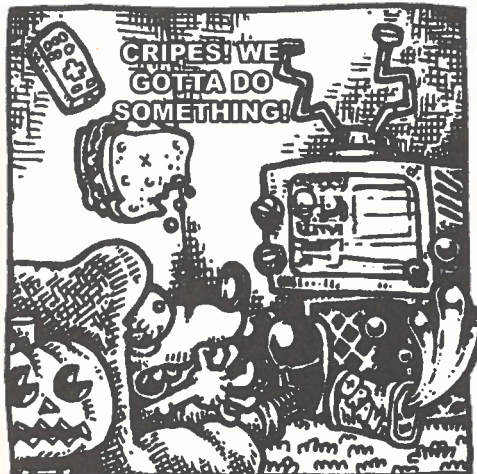


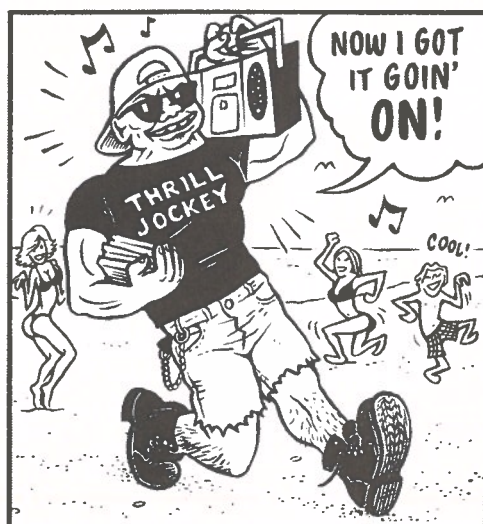
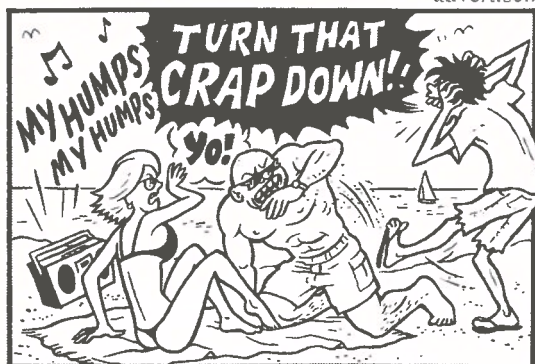
Jackie

MY COUSIN (NOT THE SAME ONE WHO DANCED ON "KIDDIE-A-GO-GO") IS SO MEAN ABOUT THE SHOW. SHE SAID TO ME, "IS EVERYONE ON YOUR SHOW RETARDED?" AND I WAS LIKE, "YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT, THEY'RE ALL RETARDED."



GOLUS AND WELCH 2000





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